PATENT

Philip T. Mellinger, et al. Application No.: 10/091,001 Page 2

receiving financial transaction information at the computer system, the financial transaction information including transaction records for a plurality of financial transactions that each have at least one associated account identifier, wherein the financial transaction information is received at its computer system immediately after or while the financial transactions occur, and wherein a plurality of the associated account identifiers are different from the target account identifiers;

at the computer system, comparing the target account identifier with the transaction information as its financial transaction information is received at the computer system to determine if the target account identifier matches any of the account identifiers of the transaction information;

upon the occurrence of a match, generating an alert having at least a portion of the transaction record that has an account identifier matching the target account identifier; and

transmitting the alert to a recipient.

13. (Amended) A method of monitoring financial transactions, comprising:

at a processing server, periodically receiving a list having a plurality of target account identifiers;

periodically transmitting at least a portion of the list to one or more platform servers, wherein the one or more platform servers are each configured to receive transaction information while the transactions are occurring in order to process associated financial transactions, the transaction information including transaction records of the financial transactions, the transaction records including associated account identifiers used in the transactions, wherein a plurality of the associated account identifiers are different from the target account identifiers, and wherein the one or more platform servers are configured to search the transaction information as the transaction information is received at the one or more platform servers for transaction records having a target account identifier from the list;

B2

Philip T. Mellinger, et al. Application No.: 10/091,001 Page 3 **PATENT**

Cont B2

134

at the processing server, receiving from one of the platform servers an alert that the platform server has identified a transaction record having one of the target account identifiers, the alert including transaction data from the transaction record; and transmitting from the processing server a notification based on the alert that the target account identifier has been identified in a transaction record.

28. (Amended) A method of monitoring financial transactions, comprising:

receiving from a processing server a list having at least a target account identifier;

receiving transaction information at the platform computer, the transaction information including transaction records of financial transactions, the transaction records including associated account identifiers used in the transactions, wherein the transaction information is received at the platform computer as associated transactions are being performed in order to approve the transactions, and wherein a plurality of the associated account identifiers are different from the target account identifiers;

searching the transaction information as the transaction information is received at the platform computer for transaction records having a target account identifiers from the list;

upon the occurrence of a match, generating an alert having at least a portion of the transaction record that has an account identifier matching a target account identifier; and

transmitting the alert to the processing server.

31. (Amended) A system for monitoring financial transactions, comprising:

a processing server; and

at least one platform server in electronic communication with the processing server;

wherein the processing server is configured to receive a list of target account identifiers and transmit the list to the at least one platform server, wherein the at

PATENT

P.5

Philip T. Mellinger, et al. Application No.: 10/091,001 Page 4

least one platform server is configured to receive the list of target account identifiers, wherein the at least one platform server is further configured to receive transaction information, including transaction records of financial transactions having associated account identifiers used in the transactions in order to approve the transactions, wherein a plurality of the associated account identifiers are different from the target account identifiers; wherein the at least one platform server is further configured to compare the associated account identifiers in the transaction records to target account identifiers on the list, wherein, upon the occurrence of a match between one of the target account identifiers and one of the account identifiers in one of the transaction records, the at least one platform server is configured to produce an alert and transmit the alert to the processing server, wherein the processing server is configured to produce a notification based on the alert and transmit the notification to a personal computer.

45. (Amended) A system for monitoring financial transactions, comprising:

a processing server; and

a communications arrangement associated with the processing server, the communications arrangement being configured to facilitate electronic communication between the processing server and at least a platform server;

wherein the processing server is configured to receive a list of target account identifiers and transmit the list to a platform server, wherein a platform server is configured to receive the list of target account identifiers, wherein the platform server is further configured to receive transaction information as transactions are being processed, including transaction records of financial transactions having account identifiers used in the transactions, wherein a plurality of the account identifiers used in the transactions are different from the account identifiers, wherein the platform server is further configured to compare the account identifiers in the transaction records to target account identifiers on the list, wherein, upon the occurrence of a match between one of the target account identifiers and one of the account identifiers in one of the transaction records, the platform server is configured to produce an alert and transmit the alert to the processing

35